

### AQUARIUM GUIDEBOOK AVAILABLE

THE PICTURE on the cover of this NEWS LETTER is one of the illustrations from the "Guide to the Steinhart Aquarium," which is now available in a revised and enlarged edition, after long being out of print. It may be purchased for thirty-five cents postpaid.

### STUDENT MEETINGS IN DECEMBER

THE REGULAR MEETINGS of student members of the Academy will be held in December, senior student members meeting the first and third Thursday evenings at 7:30 o'clock, and junior student members meeting the second and fourth Saturday afternoons at 2:00 o'clock. All meetings will be held in Room 214, Simson African Hall.

# ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

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A CORRIDOR OF THE STEINHART AQUARIUM

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO

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# CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO



## *December Announcement*

THE REGULAR DECEMBER MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in the Auditorium of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, 245 Market Street, on Monday evening, December 3, 1945. Following a brief business meeting, the second of the autumn series of lectures on the Walter B. Scaife Foundation will be given by Mr. Murl Deusing, who will take as his subject:

### BACK YARD SAFARI

Mr. Deusing and his family got around the problem of travel restrictions by going on a scientific expedition within the confines of their own back yard. There they discovered and recorded in colored motion pictures the fascinating adventures of birds, animals and insects living within a few yards of their doorstep.

The Deusing's safari began early in spring when pasque flowers were in blossom and the bird-foot violets showed blue among the dry leaves. They saw the moth push out of its silken cocoon and in time-lapse photography pictured its wings unfolding like rippling water. They found a bumble-bee's nest in a gopher hole. They dug it up—put it in a glass-topped box—and photographed the inside story of a bumble-bee's nest! They watched and photographed the house wren, the bluebird, the barn swallow, and the flicker. In mid-summer they got the amazing story of the mud-dauber wasp. They photographed the wasp building a mud nest, filling it with paralyzed spiders, and finally the very inside of the nest was filmed as the larvae developed and spun a cocoon.

Autumn, with the full and glorious colors of changing leaves, made the safari a delightful experience. The cecropia caterpillars spun cocoons and queen bees cut their way out of silken covers. As a final climax, Donald brought in an opossum with babies in her pouch. The babies were photographed right in the pouch; and later, too, as they grew up and climbed out on mother's back.

This lecture is presented through arrangement with the National Audubon Society, which is sponsoring Mr. Deusing's tour.

The public is cordially invited.

### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE is hereby given to all Corporate Members that the Council at its meeting on November 15, 1945, approved the applications of Miss Grace E. Ball, Mr. Phillip J. Brady, Mr. Guy C. Caldwell, and Mr. Carl S. Pomeroy for MEMBERSHIP, and of Miss Pauline Baker, Mr. Roy Barthold, Miss Eva Field, Miss Betty Greve, Mr. Donald Hodson, Mr. Edward Hurley, Mr. Bruce Jardine, Mr. Robert Leonard, Mr. Budwick Marchette, Miss Dorothy Nelson, Mr. LeRoy Paredes, Mr. Dale Polissar, Miss Julia Ponte, Mr. Scott Sherman, Mr. Edward L. Smith, Mr. Jackie Spiva, Miss Marlyn Stephens, Mr. Ronald Turner, and Miss Kathryn Wahlgren for STUDENT MEMBERSHIP in the California Academy of Sciences. If no objection to the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after December 1, they will be considered elected.

### MANHATTAN PROJECT

ON TWO OCCASIONS during the later months of the war, the Academy's instrument shop, under the direction of Dr. G. Dallas Hanna, was called on by the University of California Radiation Laboratories for specialized services. One of the jobs was so urgent that messengers from the University stood about waiting for the work to be completed.

When the news arrived that an atom bomb had been dropped on Hiroshima, members of the Academy's staff naturally began to speculate on the possible relation of their work to that event. Accordingly it was interesting and gratifying to them to receive from the President of the University of California the following communication:

The War Department of the United States of America has recently awarded to the University of California a War Department scroll in recognition of the contributions the University has made to the researches which underlay the development and production of the atomic bomb. While the University takes pride in this award, it recognizes that it could not have done what it did without the help of many individuals and organizations, which have no University connections. Your organization is one of these and we wish to acknowledge gratefully the help you gave us. It contributed mightily to the results achieved.

ROBERT GORDON SPROUL  
President of the University

October 21, 1945